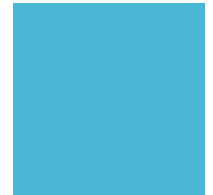
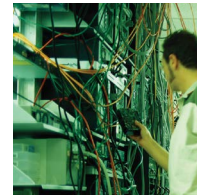




UNINTENTIONAL CYBER/ COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE FAILURE



An Unintentional Cyber/Communications Infrastructure Failure hazard occurs when an accidental disruption affects computerized data, information systems, or other communication systems. Unintentional failure may result from human error, infrastructure limitations, or the cascading effects of another hazard.

HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been six emergency-level Unintentional Cyber/Communications Infrastructure Failure hazards in Howard County during the reviewed time period (2009-2014). In 2013, while completing regular maintenance on the power supply, a radio tower was taken offline. Emergency response organizations in that tower area lost ability to communicate by radio (roughly 10% of Howard County). Police and Fire/Rescue were forced to use alternate communications methods. Radio was restored in less than two hours.

WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **30+% Annual Likelihood** of an Unintentional Cyber/Communications Infrastructure Failure hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Unintentional Cyber/Communications Infrastructure Failure hazard scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited-Significant**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Significant**.

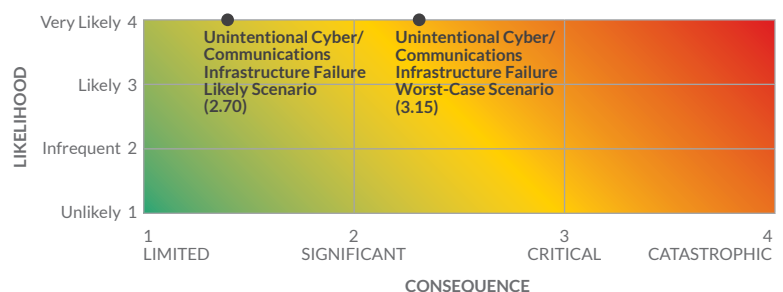
DID YOU KNOW?

- Failures can range from a single computer outage to a complete data network outage spanning multiple jurisdictions.
- Depending on the size and scope of the failure, the duration of an Unintentional Cyber/Communications Infrastructure Failure may range from several hours to several days.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment readyhoco.com/hazards
- Ready.gov, ready.gov/cyber-attack
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security, dhs.gov/topic/cybersecurity

RISK MATRIX



LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW

Future Likelihood	Very Likely 30+% chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Limited-Significant	Significant
Risk Score	2.70	3.15
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #3 of 16 man-made hazards.	

UNINTENTIONAL CYBER/COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE FAILURE IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

